

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 were pending. Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, and 13 are amended, claim 12 is canceled, and claims 14-16 are added. This Amendment adds no new matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with thanks the Examiner's determination that claims 4, 6-8, and 12-13 recite allowable subject matter. New claims 14 and 16 are re-presentations of claims 6 and 8 in independent form as they existed before the present amendment. Claim 15 is a re-presentation of claim 7.

Claim Rejections: 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as reciting subject matter anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,657,391 to Jyosako.

Applicants ask the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to specify that the signal processing device phase-shifts the input signals independently of frequency over at least a portion of a frequency range. As the Examiner acknowledged, Jyosako does not describe frequency-independent phase shifting.

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as reciting subject matter anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,757,046.

Applicants ask the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection. Claim 11 has been amended to include the feature recited in claim 12, which the Examiner indicated was allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim Rejections: 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as reciting subject matter unpatentable over Jyosako.

09/721,428
Amendment B

Applicants ask the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection. Claim 9 depends from claim 1, which is allowable as amended for the reasons given above.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 832-1176 or at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
FOLEY HOAG LLP

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/SCOTT E. KAMHOLZ/
Scott E. Kamholz, Reg. No. 48,543

Customer No. 25,181
Foley Hoag LLP
155 Seaport Blvd
Boston, MA 02210-2600
Telephone: (617) 832-1230